



# Your Resource

for Georgia's Vehicle Emissions Inspection & Maintenance (I/M) Program.

## My 1995 or Older Model Year Vehicle Failed the Emissions Inspection

### What Should I Do Now?

If a 1995 and older model year vehicle fails for a faulty gas cap or excessive nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), hydrocarbon (HC), and/or carbon monoxide (CO), it must be repaired. Faulty gas caps should be replaced.

Motorists are encouraged to review the *RepairWatch* Report at any inspection station or online at [CleanAirForce.com](http://CleanAirForce.com) for a list of recommended repair facilities in their area.

### Failure for Excessive NO<sub>x</sub>

Nitrogen and oxygen naturally co-exist in the atmosphere. At temperatures above 2500 degrees Fahrenheit (which occurs in the combustion chamber), nitrogen and oxygen chemically combine to form NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, and NO<sub>3</sub>, also known as NO<sub>x</sub>, which is a corrosive gas. Possible causes of excessive NO<sub>x</sub> include:

- Faulty or clogged EGR system and/or EGR valve.
- Faulty mass air flow sensor.
- Faulty or malfunctioning thermostat.
- Incorrect ignition timing.
- Old coolant/thermostat.
- Incorrect fuel pressure.
- Faulty oxygen sensor(s).
- Broken leaky vacuum hose.

### Failure for Excessive HC

Hydrocarbon is unburned fuel caused by poor ignition timing or improper fuel mixture. Possible causes of excessive HC include:

- Faulty spark plugs and plug wires.
- Faulty EGR system.
- Faulty oxygen sensor(s).
- Clogged or leaking fuel injectors or carburetor.
- Faulty mass air flow sensor.
- Incorrect ignition timing.

### Failure for Excessive CO

Carbon monoxide is a poisonous gas that is formed by insufficient airflow or improper fuel mixture. Possible causes of excessive HC include:

- Faulty oxygen sensor(s).
- Incorrect ignition timing.
- Faulty mass air flow sensor.
- Faulty fuel pressure.
- Faulty PCV valve.
- Dirty fuel injection/carburetor.
- Clogged air filter.

**NOTE:** Catalytic converters do not cause high emissions. Rather, they attempt to reduce excessive emissions from the engine. Engine component failures should be addressed before the converter is replaced to prevent voiding the converter warranty.

**Offers to illegally pass a vehicle should be reported to Georgia's Clean Air Force.**

If your vehicle fails its annual emissions inspection, and you have already paid all related taxes and fees, contact your local county tag office for information about a possible non-renewable 30-day extension on your registration, per OCGA 40-2-20.